

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02626 022253Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCEM-02 SCI-06 AEC-11 INT-08 COME-00

EPA-04 CEQ-02 OMB-01 NSF-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 TRSE-00 DOTE-00

HUD-02 NASA-04 DRC-01 TAR-02 /183 W

----- 019188

R 022211Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2036

UNCLAS OTTAWA 2626

POUCHED ALL CONSULATES GENERAL IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION REMARKS ON GOC'S ENERGY POLICY STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING ENERGY MINISTER MACDONALD'S ENERGY POLICY STATEMENT IN COMMONS LAST EVENING (NOV. 1), REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES MADE STATEMENTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

2. MP HAMILTON, SPEAKING FOR PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES, EMPHASIZED CONFEDERATION TENSIONS WHICH WOULD BE GENERATED BY MACDONALD STATEMENT AND SUGGESTED THAT POLICY EFFECTIVELY ENDS PRICE FREEZE AS FAR AS CONSUMERS CONCERNED. HE PREDICTED "WHOPPING" BIG INCREASE FOR CONSUMERS EAST AND WEST OF OTTAWA VALLEY LINE AFTER FEBRUARY 1. AS FOR EXPORT TAX, HE SAID EVERY BIT OF IT SHOULD BE RETURNED TO PRODUCING PROVINCE. HAMILTON CONCLUDED BY RECITING WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN DONE IN PAST IF GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN SINCERE ABOUT CONSULTATIVE PROCESS WITH PROVINCES:

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02626 022253Z

TRANSPORTATION TECHNIQUES TO MOVE FUEL FROM SURPLUS TO

DEFICIT AREAS, STORAGE FACILITIES, ARRANGEMENTS WITH UNITED STATES TO SUPPLY GAS AND OIL IN RETURN FOR REMOVAL OF PETROCHEMICAL TARIFFS, AND SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS TO PUT ON THE CANADIAN MARKET ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF ENERGY TO OIL, GAS AND COAL.

3. T.C. DOUGLAS SPOKE THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP) POSITION. HE SAID NDP SUPPORTED MAINTAINING THE EXPORT TAX BUT STRONGLY CRITICIZED ENERGY STATEMENT AS "A MOST INADEQUATE RESPONSE TO A DESPERATE SITUATION." MAIN DEFICIENCIES IN NDP EYES ARE LACK OF SATISFACTORY MEASURES TO ENSURE SECURITY OF SUPPLY AND CONSUMER PRICE PROTECTION AND FAILURE TO SET UP NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION. HE SAID, "I STRONGLY SUSPECT THE REASON WE HAD TO WAIT ALL DAY INSTEAD OF GETTING A REPORT AT TWO O'CLOCK OR FIVE O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON IS THAT THE MINISTER (MACDONALD) WAS PUSHING FOR SUCH A NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION. I HAVE THE FEELING HE WAS CLOBBED BY THE NEANDERTHALS IN HIS DEPARTMENT." DOUGLAS CLOSED WITH PROMISE THAT NDP "SHALL CONTINUE TO PUSH THE MINISTER AND THE GOVERNMENT TO BRING IN LEGISLATION BETWEEN NOW AND CHRISTMAS FOR SUCH A NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION."

4. MP RONDEAU'S (SOCIAL CREDIT) REMARKS CENTERED ON FOREIGN "COLONIZED" STATE OF CANADIAN OIL INDUSTRY AND ATTRIBUTED PROBLEMS OF SUPPLY AND PRICE TO FACT THAT CANADIANS "ARE THE EXTERNAL MILK COWS OF MULTINATIONAL OIL COMPANIES."  
SCHMIDT

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